

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06

SIL-01 OMB-01 CU-04 FEA-02 AEC-11 ACDA-19 SCCT-02

SAM-01 SAB-01 DRC-01 /255 W
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R 220535Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7261

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY Dacca

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

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AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
USUN NEW YORK 484
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANAA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 2940

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EGEN MY XD XF XI XJ

SUBJECT: ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE: HIGHLIGHTS, JUNE 21

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 2925

1. SUMMARY: MAIN EVENT JUNE 21 WAS FORMAL OPENING OF CONFERENCE AT PARLIAMENT BUILDING. GOM PRIME MINISTER RAZAK'S SPEECH PREDICTABLY HIGHLIGHTED ECONOMIC ISSUES BUT HE ALSO MADE PLEA FOR UNITY AT CONFERENCE AND GAVE STRONG VERBAL SUPPORT TO PALESTINIAN CAUSE. REPLYING TO RAZAK'S SPEECH, LIBYAN ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER ABDEL ATI AL-OBEEDI CALLED FOR "CONSTRUCTIVE ACTION" TO CONSOLIDATE ISLAMIC UNITY AND LIBERATE JERUSALEM. AL-OBEEDI ALSO PRAISED GOM
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SUPPORT OF ARABS AND PALESTINIANS AND CALLED FOR "POLITICAL SOLUTION" TO ALLEVIATE "PLIGHT" OF MUSLIMS IN SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES. ON ECONOMIC FRONT, SAUDI ARABIA, KUWAIT AND IRANIANS REPORTEDLY ARE STRONGLY OPPOSING ESTABLISHMENT OF OIL COMPENSATION FUND. END SUMMARY.

2. PM RAZAK'S SPEECH: AT FORMAL OPENING OF FONMINS' CONF JUNE 21, PM RAZAK MADE STRONG PITCH FOR CLOSER ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG

ISLAMIC NATIONS. HE OUTLINED FIVE-POINT PLAN: ESTABLISHMENT OF ISLAMIC ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION SCHEME; PROMOTION OF GREATER TRADE AND INVESTMENT; DEPLOYMENT OF "UNUSED FUNDS" OF ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB) "AS FAR AS POSSIBLE WITHIN THE MUSLIM WORLD"; DECLARATION OF CHARTER DAY TO PROMOTE AWARENESS OF ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY; AND EASING TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS FOR CITIZENS OF ISLAMIC COUNTRIES. RE ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION, RAZAK SAID ISLAMIC NATIONS MUST BE PRACTICAL IN IMPLEMENTING PROJECTS AND STRONGLY SUPPORTED IDB, NOTING IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS OF TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN AND SAUDI KING FAISAL IN THIS REGARD. RAZAK ADDED: "IT IS NOT OUR INTENTION TO TURN AWAY FROM NON-MUSLIM COUNTRIES. IT MUST BE OUR POLICY TO WORK WITH EVERY COUNTRY FOR THE COMMON GOOD AND FOR PEACE AND STABILITY OF THE WORLD."

3. ON ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY, RAZAK SAID THAT FONMINS' CONF MUST NOT BE RENT BY BICKERING AND AVERRED THAT "IN UNITY LIES OUR STRENGTH. AS A RESULT OF OUR OWN DISSENSION AND RIVALRIES, WE HAVE BEEN DIVIDED AND EXPLOITED FAR TOO LONG." REFERRING TO "ISRAEL'S PERSISTENT ATTEMPTS TO TRANSFORM THE CHARACTER OF JERUSALEM", "DELIBERATE MOVE BY ISRAEL TO EXTINGUISH THE RIGHTS OF ITS ARAB INHABITANTS", AND "UNGODLY ACTS OF ISRAEL TO ANNEX AND JUDAIZE THE HOLY CITY", RAZAK CALLED UPON ISLAMIC NATIONS TO "MOBILIZE OUR RESOURCES, FIRST OF ALL OUR DIPLOMATIC RESOURCES" TO FORCE ISRAEL TO DESIST FROM THESE ACTS. CITING ISRAEL'S "CONTINUED DEFIANCE AND BELLICOSITY", RAZAK THEN GAVE FULL SUPPORT TO PALESTINIAN CAUSE AND SAID THAT PRESENCE HERE OF FULL-FLEDGED PLO REPRESENTATIVE IS CONSISTENT WITH LAHORE SUMMIT'S REAFFIRMATION THAT PLO IS "SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE" OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. (COMMENT: STRONG VERBIAGE IN RAZAK'S ADDRESS IS AIMED AT ESTABLISHING MALAYSIA'S ISLAMIC CREDENTIALS, BUT THERE ARE SUFFICIENT QUALIFIERS SUCH AS REFERENCE TO DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO CLEARLY CATEGORIZE MALAYSIA'S

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SUPPORT OF ARAB CAUSE AS MORAL AND POLITICAL, NOT MATERIAL. AFTER ALL, ISLAM IS THICKER THAN WATER.)

4. LIBYAN SPEECH: IN HIS REPLY TO RAZAK'S ADDRESS, LIBYAN ACTING FONMIN AL-OBEEDI SAID THAT FONMINS' CONF SHOULD WORK HARD TO IMPLEMENT DECISIONS OF PAST ISLAMIC CONFERENCES, MANY OF WHICH AS YET UNFULFILLED. HE EXPLAINED HOWEVER THAT HE WAS NOT ASKING ISLAMIC NATIONS TO LAUNCH "ANOTHER JIHAD" TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS SUCH AS THE "JUST STRUGGLE" OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. HE PRAISED MALAYSIA FOR SUPPORT OF PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT. CONCERNING THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES, AL-OBEEDI SAID THAT PLIGHT OF MUSLIMS THERE IS NO LESS SEVERE OR IMPORTANT THAN THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE. ALTHOUGH ISSUE OF FOREIGN OCCUPATION IS NOT INVOLVED, HE WENT ON, A POLITICAL SOLUTION MUST BE FOUND BECAUSE PROBLEM IS NOT ONLY A SOCIAL ONE.

5. MORE ON SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES: IN INTERVIEW WITH ASSOCIATED PRESS (AP) CORRESPONDENT JUNE 21, AL-OBEEDI ELABORATED ON SUBSTANCE OF HIS SPEECH. HE SAID STRONG RESOLUTION ON PHILIPPINE MUSLIM PROBLEM IS LIBYA'S CARDINAL OBJECTIVE AT FONMINS' CONF. ACCORDING AP CORRESPONDENT, AL-OBEEDI ADMITTED THAT LIBYA IS GIVING ARMS AND MONEY TO PHILIPPINE MUSLIM DISSIDENTS.

6. OIL COMPENSATION FUND: PRESS SOURCE TELLS US THAT PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF OIL COMPENSATION FUND (OR FOREIGN EXCHANGE SUPPORT FUND) TO AID LESS DEVELOPED ISLAMIC NATIONS HURT BY RISING OIL PRICES MAY BE DERAILED DUE TO STRONG OPPOSITION FROM SAUDI ARABIA, KUWAITI AND IRANIAN DELEGATIONS. ACCORDING TO PRIVATE STATEMENTS BY PAKISTANI ECONOMIST SECONDED TO ISLAMIC SECRETARIAT AND MEMBER OF SAUDI DELEGATION, MAJOR OIL PRODUCING NATIONS WILL NOT ACCEPT PLAN TO GIVE GENERAL SUBSIDIES TO POORER NATIONS, PARTICULARLY AFRICANS, BUT WILL SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT AID ON PROJECT-BY-PROJECT BASIS THROUGH IDB. IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THIS RESPECT IS THAT IRANIANS AND KUWAITIS DO NOT WANT ATTENTION DIVERTED FROM THEIRS ILATERAL AID FUNDS.

7. DOMESTIC BYPLAY: LIBYA HAS ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL DONATE M\$16.5 ODLION (APPROX US\$6.6 MILLION) TO MALAYSIAN ISLAMIC WELFARE FOUNDATION (PERKIM), LARGELY FOR PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING NEW 26-STOREY BUILDING. SEVERAL ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS, POSSIBLY INCLUDING INDONESIA FONMIN MALIK, ARE CONFIDENTIAL

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SLATED TO ATTEND A NATIONAL FRONT POLITICAL RALLY WITH PM RAZAK IN IPOH, PERAK TON
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